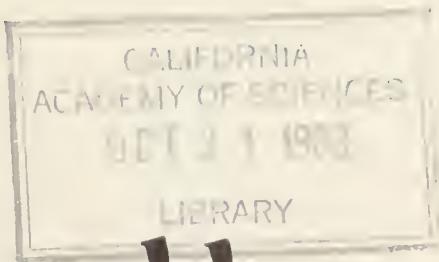


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# the gull

Volume 65

Berkeley, Calif.

November 1983

Number 10

## November Program—George Peyton

Bring a friend to this unusual program. National Audubon board member George Peyton, who led last summer's National Audubon nature tour to Southern Africa, will present films of the visit to Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe. Often flying by small charter planes to remote wild areas, the group visited places far off the normal tourist routes which few Americans ever see.

The November membership meeting will be **Thursday, November 10**, at **7:30 p.m.** at Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley.

—PROGRAM COMMITTEE

## Special December Meeting

The drawing for prizes in the Wildlife Art Benefit will be held at a membership meeting **Thursday, December 8**. Except for the grand prize, any winner present will be able to select the prize of his choice. Plan to attend the meeting.

Tickets for the drawing may be obtained by mailing an order to the GGAS office or by visiting the office between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. (See page 167.)

## Conservation Committee Meets

There will be a regular meeting of the Conservation Committee on Tuesday, November 8, at 7:30 p.m. at the GGAS office. No expert knowledge is necessary; just an interest in the many issues. All are welcome.

—ART FEINSTEIN

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## Field Trips Calendar

**Saturday, November 5—Beginners' Trip to Chain of Lakes, San Francisco.** See October *Gull*.

**Sunday, November 6—Tennessee Valley.** See October *Gull*.

**Wednesday, November 9—Mini-trip to Hayward Regional Shoreline.** Meet at 10:30 a.m. at the shoreline in Hayward. Exit at W. Winton Ave., follow Winton west toward the Bay until it ends at the shoreline lot. Bring scopes and lunch. Rain cancels trip. Leaders: Delpha de Timofeev and Ruth Voss (525-8032).

**Saturday, November 12—Coyote Hills Regional Park.** See October *Gull*.

**Saturday, November 19—Lake Merced, San Francisco.** Meet at 9 a.m. at the south end of Sunset Blvd. in the Lake Merced Circle. This is a good time to see wintering grebes and ducks. If you take the #72 bus be sure to get off at Ocean Ave. because the next stop is Winston Dr., about one-half mile away. Lunch is optional for this half-day trip. Leader: Aileen Pierson (587-4163).

**Thursday, November 24—Ninth Annual Thanksgiving outing to Point Reyes National Seashore.** Meet at 9 a.m. at the Larkspur Ferry Terminal, Section H, or at 10 a.m. at the Point Reyes National Seashore headquarters at Olema. We will have a leisurely day of birding and hiking in the headquarters area and along the Estero Trail to the ocean. We generally see an excellent variety of waterfowl, shorebirds and land-birds. The day will end with the Thanksgiving dinner (about \$8+) at Jerry's Farmhouse in the town of Olema. Bring a light lunch, scope and clothes for cool and windy weather. Leader: Barry Spitz (461-1930 days or 454-2769 between 6 and 9 p.m.). (✓)

Carpooling arrangements can be made for trips marked (✓). Call Kate Partridge at 236-9053 and leave a message. She will contact you.

Problems: If for any reason you have difficulty getting in touch with a field trip leader or need information regarding a trip, call Shirley Kelly (387-8290) or the GGAS office (843-2222).

—FIELD TRIPS COMMITTEE

## September Observations —through September 19

Readers should note the early cutoff date in September for this month's column; late September birds will be noted next month. Two of the many reasons for this date are that a single cutoff be applied to mainland and Farallon reports and that the weather patterns and associated major waves of vagrants which began on September 20 and continued into October be chronicled in a single column (October).

(continued on p. 156)



**WINGS IN THE WIND**—Snow Geese by John Ruthven  
Grand Prize in the GGAS Wildlife Benefit Drawing.  
Please refer to page 167. Drawing date is December 8.

## FARALLON BREEDERS

Reproductive totals for this El Niño year are now final, except for the storm-petrels, which fledge much later than other Farallon seabirds. Fewer than **ten** fledglings were estimated for seven species: Brandt's Cormorant (7500-10,000 normal!), Pelagic Cormorant (**zero** eggs laid!), Double-crested Cormorant, Pigeon Guillemot, Tufted Puffin, Rhinoceros Auklet and Black Oystercatcher. Success was less than 5% for Common Murres, less than 500 chicks fledged. The 5500 estimate for Cassin's Auklets compares to 75,000 to 80,000 in a "normal" year. Even Western Gulls only managed to fledge 0.5 chicks per nest site, or 6400 total. (All data by Point Reyes Bird Observatory, thanks to Stephanie Kaza.)

## PELAGICS

A rather early Short-tailed Shearwater was off Monterey Sept. 18 (JML, JM, et al.). All other pelagics of note here were warm water species and/or unusually inshore. All boat trips to Sept. 18 found 10-12 Black-vented Shearwaters (mob) and they were seen from shore as far north as SE Farallon (PRBO) and Montara (BS).

On August 25 a Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel was **inside San Francisco Bay** off Crissey Field, San Francisco, and several were in the Gulf of the Farallones (both SC). Others that day foraged with Black and Ashy (?) Storm-Petrels off Cliff House (AH). The many Fork-tailed Storm-Petrels at Monterey Harbor and Cannery Row continue to be seen in variable numbers up to 40, but eventually dispersing (mob). One mixed feeding flock at the kelp off Esplanade Park, Pacific Grove, Sept. 9, included 30 Fork-tailed, 40 Ashy, 6 Black and 1 **Least** Storm-Petrel, plus a South Polar Skua and other pelagics (DR)! Similar but smaller shoreward aggregations were noted at Montara and Pigeon Point (both BS) and SE Farallon, including the first Island records of Black Storm-Petrels (PRBO). On Monterey pelagic trips petrels were so well represented inshore and scattered west of the Monterey Peninsula that no boat visited the petrel flocks until Sept. 18. The former boats consistently found **Least Storm-Petrels**: 3 on Aug. 27 (fide JM), 1 on Sept. 14 (DR, et al.) and a flock of 10 Sept. 18 (JM, et al.). The other boat on Sept. 18 estimated about **100 Leasts** in the petrel flocks west of Moss Landing (JM, et al.).

The only onshore Arctic Tern was at Pescadero Sept. 17 (JM, et al.). Photos show that many if not most of the **scripsi** Xanters' Murrelets on Aug. 24 noted in last month's column were in fact Craveri's Murrelets (SFB), a finding more in line with subsequent boat trips, which have found exclusively **Craveri's**, with rare exceptions (mob). Boats following different routes Sept. 18 encountered **40 Craveri's** (JML, et al.) and **15 Craveri's, 2 hypoleuca** and one **scripsi** Xanters' (JM, et al.).

## MISCELLANEOUS WATERBIRDS

Thirty Cattle Egrets were seen flying southwest of Manteca Sept. 16 (JL). A stray White-fronted Goose inhabited the Mendoza Ranch pond in early September (JP).

## SANDPIPERs

The month produced a fine assortment of rare Sandpipers. Solitary Sandpipers were numerous with perhaps 5 individuals: 2 were at Bolinas Sewage Ponds September 5, 1 staying to Sept. 6 (JE), Woodland Sugar Ponds Sept. 8-11 (JML, RJ), Pescadero Sept. 7 (DE, JH) and mouth of Año Nuevo Creek (same?) Sept. 10 (DW, KA). One of California's most elusive shorebirds was an **Upland Sandpiper** near Davenport Sept. 3 and 4 (BLaB, DS, RM, et al.). The same could be said for the **Hudsonian Godwit** reportedly photographed in a flooded field in Merced County Aug. 31 (RB, fide KH). Another Semipalmated Sandpiper was at Pescadero Sept. 4 (JM, AG, WG) and two were at Elkhorn Slough Sept. 19 (DDeS, et al.).

A juvenal **Rufous-necked Stint** occurred at Bolinas Sewage Ponds intermittently from Sept. 14 to Sept. 23 (DE, JH, JM, mob, RS). Although field impressions and photographs suggested that two individuals were involved, a bright reddish bird and a darker, duller one, these color differences are apparently explained by differences in lighting; the bird looked brighter and redder in sunlight but darker and duller under heavy overcast, an expected pattern. However, the single-bird interpretation has not been accepted by all. Those still believing in two individuals suggest that the "redder bird" might have been a Little Stint. On Sept. 22 a tour group of Englishmen confidently stated that it was not a Little Stint (and therefore it was a Rufous-necked).

Fifty Pectoral Sandpipers at Doran Pond, Bodega Bay, Sept. 19 (NC) was a high count. The season's first Sharp-tailed Sandpiper frequented Elkhorn Slough Sept. 12-19 (BLaB, DS, et al.). Two Stilt Sandpipers were found at Bolinas Sewage Ponds Sept. 6-15 (SH, mob) and Pescadero Sept. 15-19 (BS, PM, JM, et al., DQ). Again a **Buff-Breasted Sandpiper** occurred at Cedar Lane, Petaluma, on Aug. 27-28 (GF, DJ, mob). A female Ruff highlighted Pescadero Sept. 7-16 (DE, JH, mob, BS, PM).

## INTERIOR WESTERN VAGRANTS

Clear warm weather with moderate northwesterly winds prevailed before Sept. 20. This suppressed the occurrence of both eastern and western vagrants during this period. Brief shifts to southerly winds correlated strongly with the finding of various vagrant landbirds from the interior West, notably southwestern species. All Farallon reports are by Point Reyes Bird Observatory.

On Aug. 24 a White-winged Dove was at Pescadero (BS, PM) and a Brewer's Sparrow visited SE Farallon. The next day produced SE Farallon's first Cassin's Kingbird. Southerlies next blew Aug. 30 - Sept. 1, with a Hooded Oriole on SE Farallon.

The winds of Sept. 5-7 resulted in the third Farallon record of **Lucy's Warbler** Sept. 5, a Brewer's Sparrow there Sept. 6 and on Sept. 7 a Gray Flycatcher and Green-tailed Towhee. Simultaneously, on the mainland White-winged Doves were sighted at Nunes Ranch Sept. 5 (PL, DEI, JP), Palomarin Sept. 6 (PRBO) and Mendoza Ranch Sept. 7 (PLaT). A Brewer's Sparrow was at Palomarin Sept. 6 (PRBO) and a Calliope Hummingbird buzzed Fish Docks Sept. 7 (RS).

The wind shift of Sept. 17 matched the arrival on SE Farallon of the first Northern California record of **Brown-crested (Wied's) Flycatcher**. A White-winged Dove was at Mendoza Ranch that weekend (CR, et al.).

Only the Blue Grosbeak at Fish Docks Sept. 9 (CC, LCB, BDP, JP) occurred on another date and this is the only one of these birds that could have originated in the *East*. The two montane irruptive species noted also did not fit this correlation with southerlies. A Townsend's Solitaire at Middle Lake, Golden Gate Park, Sept. 10 (HG, PG, DM, et al.) and about 25 Red-breasted Nuthatches passing through a yard at Bodega Bay Sept. 13-19 (NC) gave the first indication of likely irruptions this year.

## EASTERN VAGRANTS

Comments by a Regional Editor in *American Birds* (37:221—second paragraph under "Warblers") show that there is much confusion regarding the numbers of individual vagrants compiled in Farallon reports and in my Observations columns. For the past several years, the daily numbers of individual vagrants reported from SE Farallon have *not* been *totals* present but rather *arrivals of apparently new individuals that day*. Mainland editors have *not* had to try to decide how many individuals stayed and how many were new each day, because the field observers did their best to distinguish individuals and then applied the criteria for daily turnover specified by De Sante and Ainley (1980, *Studies in Avian Biology*, No. 4, pp. 6-7). For only the rarest vagrants are more than arrival dates reported to the editors. For vagrants at Point Reyes, I have applied De Sante and Ainley's criteria modified somewhat toward conservatism due to poorer coverage relative to SE Farallon and the added problem of inter-ranch movement on Point Reyes. However, this is balanced by an analysis of the local weather patterns and their apparent effect on vagrant turnover rates each night of the season. That is, if a weather shift apparently results in the departure of nearly all vagrants, individuals found during the new conditions are considered new arrivals even if coverage of Point Reyes was not complete enough that the absence of

resightings would "prove" each prior bird's departures. Recalculating my criteria after the Regional Editor's count of only 25 Palm Warblers last fall, I still conclude that close to 40 individuals were involved. Although I agree that we should be very conservative in compiling records of *rare* vagrants, including confirmation by the California Bird Records Committee, I believe this approach to documentation of *common* vagrants is inappropriate; the goal should be our *best estimate* of the actual numbers and patterns of occurrence, not a conclusion that the absolute minimum number that must be admitted was the total present and that all records are thus accounted for (giving a totally different interpretation of the patterns of occurrence). This fallacy is rampant in scientific research and produces a consistent conservative bias that is related to the affirmation of null hypotheses.

On SE Farallon, many eastern vagrants arrived during the same periods of southerly winds as did the western vagrants but others did not and a few eastern birds appeared daily Sept. 14-18. Mainland vagrants were more uniformly distributed in time, but Sept. 14-18 was similarly a minor wave period.

Most surprising of the eastern vagrants was a singing **Eastern Wood Pewee** present southwest of Manteca apparently from at least August to Sept. 17 (DY, JML, mob). Least Flycatchers dropped in on SE Farallon Aug. 31, Sept. 17 and 18. The lone Eastern Kingbird was at Point Reyes Station Sept. 13 (JE). A Red-eyed Vireo stopped on SE Farallon Sept. 17.

The following table lists the eastern warblers found before the weather conditions became favorable. Farallon dates are for arrivals only.

Tennessee Warbler (total 4)		
1 SE Farallon	Sept. 6	PRBO
2 Fish Docks	Sept. 17-18. 19	JW, mob
1 Lincoln Park, S.F.	Sept. 14	AH, MLR
Magnolia Warbler (total 5)		
3 SE Farallon	Aug. 22, Sept. 6, 17	PRBO
1 Pt. Reyes Lighthouse	Sept. 6	AG, WG
1 Middle Lake, G.G. Park	Sept. 3-4	EM, AM, RT
Cape May Warbler (total 1)		
1 Fish Docks	Sept. 17-18	mob
Prairie Warbler (total 2)		
2 Fish Docks	Sept. 5-9 (2 on 7)	KG, et al., RS PLAT
Blackpoll Warbler (total 12)		
5 SE Farallon	Sept. 6 (2), 12, 14, 16	PRBO
5 Point Reyes	Sept. 7-10, 14-18, (3 on 16)	mob
1 Bolinas	Sept. 10	JE
1 Lincoln Park, S.F.	Sept. 14-17	AH, MLR
Black-and-white Warbler (total 2)		
1 Nunes Ranch	Sept. 18	PL
1 Stinson Beach	Sept. 9	DW
American Redstart (total 6)		
2 SE Farallon	Sept. 14	PRBO
3 Pt Reyes	Sept. 3, 7-10 (2 on 9)	RS, mob
1 Lincoln Park, S.F.	Sept. 15-17	AH

Ovenbird (total 2)		
1 SE Farallon	Sept. 14	PRBO
1 Pt. Reyes Lighthouse	Sept. 16	DiS, BL
Northern Waterthrush (total 2)		
1 Moss Beach	Sept. 15	BS, PM, FL
1 Bodega Bay	Sept. 17	AA, NC, et al.
Connecticut Warbler (total 1)		
1 SE Farallon	Sept. 15	PRBO
Hooded Warbler (total 1)		
1 Montara	Aug. 27	BS

Three of the four Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were in San Francisco: Lincoln Park Aug. 27 (DM, WK) and Sept. 14 (AH) and Middle Lake Sept. 18 (EM, AM). The other was at Point Reyes Lighthouse Sept. 7 (RS, PLAT). Lark Buntings favored Nunes Ranch Sept. 3 (RS, JE) and Sept. 13-14 (AG, WG, et al.). Nunes held a Bobolink Sept. 10 (EM) and others visited SE Farallon Sept. 9 and 17. The fall's first Orchard Oriole was on SE Farallon Sept. 16.

### THE ASIAN CONNECTION

A **Yellow Wagtail** found at Younger's Lagoon, Santa Cruz, Sept. 4 moved west to the mouth of Wilder Creek and stayed through Sept. 6 (CF, DS, BLaB, mob). No previous member of this species has allowed many people to observe it.

**Erratum:** A single-letter error in last issue's August Observations (p. 144) created a ludicrous implication, that Semipalmated Sandpipers are even more recognized than are Pectoral Sandpipers (!). Instead of "...even more recognized..." read "*ever* more recognized..." meaning Semipalmated Sandpipers are being found more frequently every year.

**Observers:** Kate Allman, Avis Anderson, Robbie Bacon, Stephen F. Bailey, Laurence C. Binford, Chris Carpenter, Nancy Conzett, Steve Cooper, Linda DeLucchi, David DeSante, David Edwards (DE), Doug Ellis (DEl), Jules Evens, Gary Fellers, Carolyn Fredericksen, Kimball Garrett, Albert Ghiorso, Wilma Ghiorso, Phil Gordon, Helen Green, Paul Green (PG), John Hall, Keith Hansen, Alan Hopkins, Steve Howell, Richard Jeffers, Dick Johnson, Woody Kuehn, Bruce LaBar, Jeri M. Langham, Peter LaTourrette, Bill Lenary, Phil Lenna, Flan Lewis, John Luther, Akiko Makishima, Eugene Makishima, Peter Metropulos, many observers (mob), Randy Morgan, Joseph Morlan, Dan Murphy, Point Re却s Bird Observatory (Farallon reports thanks to Henry Carter and Stephanie Kaza), Benjamin D. Parmeter, John Parmeter, Dave Quady, Cliff Richer, Don Roberson, Elsie Roemer, Mary Louise Rosegay, Barry Sauppe, Dianne Sierra (DiS), Dan Singer (DS), Rich Stallcup, Ron Thorn, Derek Watson (DW), Jack Whetstone, David Wimpfheimer (DWi), David Yee.

—STEPHEN F. BAILEY, Observations Editor  
Museum of Vertebrate Zoology,  
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PHONE (415) 957-9114

August 5, 1983

The Board of Directors  
Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.  
2718 Telegraph Avenue  
Berkeley, California 94705

We enclose the following statements for

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

which have been reviewed in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements is the representation of the officers of Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.

Balance Sheet  
May 31, 1983 and 1982

Exhibit A

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and  
Changes in Fund Balances for the  
Years Ended May 31, 1983 and 1982

Exhibit B

Statement of Changes in Financial  
Position for the Years Ended  
May 31, 1983 and 1982

Exhibit C

A review consists principally of inquiries of Society personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an examination in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

*Kirby and Mangini*

KIRBY AND MANGINI  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

EXHIBIT A

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.  
(A CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION)  
BALANCE SHEET  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED MAY 31, 1983 AND 1982  
(REVIEWED WITHOUT AUDIT)

	<u>ASSETS</u>	1983	1982
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>			
Cash		\$ 16,657	\$ 19,427
Accounts Receivable -			
Due From National Audubon Society		4,529	2,552
Inventory		1,671	2,064
Prepaid Expense		419	877
<u>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</u>		<u>23,276</u>	<u>24,920</u>
<u>FIXED ASSETS - AT COST (Note 1)</u>			
Office Equipment		2,827	2,827
Less: Accumulated Depreciation		<u>2,029</u>	<u>1,698</u>
		798	1,129
<u>RESTRICTED FUNDS</u>			
Cash In Savings Accounts		403	1,953
Due From General Fund - Net		<u>101,737</u>	<u>88,478</u>
		102,140	90,431
		<u>\$ 126,214</u>	<u>\$ 116,480</u>
<u>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</u>			
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>			
Accounts Payable		1,822	630
Donation Payable - Mono Lake		-0-	3,163
Funds Held For Other Organizations		-0-	241
Accrued Liabilities:			
Payroll Taxes		521	103
Sales Taxes		<u>38</u>	<u>383</u>
<u>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>		<u>2,381</u>	<u>4,520</u>
<u>FUND BALANCES (Exhibit B)</u>			
General Fund		21,693	21,529
Restricted Funds		<u>102,140</u>	<u>90,431</u>
		123,833	111,960
		<u>\$ 126,214</u>	<u>\$ 116,480</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

KIRBY AND MANGINI  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

EXHIBIT B

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.  
(A CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION)  
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED MAY 31, 1983 AND 1982  
(REVIEWED WITHOUT AUDIT)

<u>GENERAL FUND</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1982</u>
<u>Revenues</u>		
Member's Dues	\$ 43,803	\$ 35,140
Interest and Other Income	6,204	8,909
Gifts and Donations	<u>2,655</u>	<u>1,720</u>
	<u>52,662</u>	<u>45,769</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>		
Gull Printing	14,422	13,691
Salaries	11,941	11,007
Gull Mailings	5,038	1,479
Office Rent and Utilities	4,934	4,416
Gifts and Donations	2,335	100
Other Expenses	2,028	624
Office Supplies and Expense	1,970	680
Insurance	1,291	665
Telephone and Postage	1,234	4,145
Meetings	1,193	580
Payroll and Other Taxes	1,120	1,634
Accounting	1,085	1,200
Mono Lake Expense	1,068	-0-
Field Trips and Studies	630	1,844
Mileage, Travel and Reimbursements	463	1,382
Employee Welfare	435	241
Christmas Bird Count	419	517
Depreciation	331	361
Rare Bird Alert	214	596
Program Costs - Other	195	542
Dues and Membership	152	195
Condor Expense	-0-	1,194
Scholarships	-0-	575
	<u>52,498</u>	<u>47,668</u>
<u>Excess of Revenues Over Expenses</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>( 1,899)</u>
<u>Fund Balance - Beginning of Year</u>	<u>21,529</u>	<u>23,428</u>
<u>Fund Balance - End of Year</u>	<u>21,693</u>	<u>21,529</u>
<u>RESTRICTED FUNDS (Note 2)</u>		
<u>Fund Balances - Beginning of Year</u>	<u>90,431</u>	<u>52,672</u>
<u>Excess of Receipts Over Expenses</u>	<u>11,709</u>	<u>37,759</u>
<u>Fund Balances - End of Year</u>	<u>102,140</u>	<u>90,431</u>
	<u>\$ 125,833</u>	<u>\$ 111,960</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

KIRBY AND MANGINI  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

EXHIBIT C

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.  
(A CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION)  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED MAY 31, 1983 AND 1982  
(REVIEWED WITHOUT AUDIT)

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1982</u>
<u>WORKING CAPITAL PROVIDED BY OPERATIONS</u>		
Excess (Deficit) of Revenue Over Expenses	\$ 164	\$( 1,899)
Add (Deduct) Charges Not Affecting Working Capital:		
Depreciation	331	361
	<u>495</u>	( 1,538)
<u>WORKING CAPITAL USED FOR OPERATIONS</u>		
Purchase of Office Equipment	-0-	( 120)
<u>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN WORKING CAPITAL</u>	<u>\$ 495</u>	\$ ( 1,658)
<u>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN WORKING CAPITAL CONSISTED OF:</u>		
Cash	\$( 2,770)	\$( 8,997)
Accounts Receivable	1,977	580
Inventory	( 393)	( 319)
Due From Restricted Funds	-0-	( 2,297)
Prepaid Expenses	( 458)	-0-
Donations Payable	3,163	6,128
Accounts Payable	( 1,192)	( 630)
Due to Restricted Funds	241	3,527
Accrued Liabilities	( 73)	350
	<u>\$ 495</u>	\$ ( 1,658)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

KIRBY AND MANGINI  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.  
(A CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION)  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
MAY 31, 1983 AND 1982  
(REVIEWED WITHOUT AUDIT)

NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Inventories are stated at cost. Cost is determined on the "First-In, First-Out" basis.

Depreciation has been computed by the straight-line method based on the estimated useful life of the asset. The estimated useful lives used for office equipment varied from three to ten years.

NOTE 2 - RESTRICTED FUND BALANCES

	SANCTUARIES FUND	ENDOWMENT FUND	BAYSHORE FUND	LIFE- MEMBERSHIP FUND	TOTAL
<u>Balance-Beginning of Year</u>	\$ 52,710	\$ 30,142	\$ 4,598	\$ 2,981	\$ 90,431
Additions:					
Donations	3,794	-0-	-0-	919	4,713
Interest Income	4,217	2,411	368	-0-	6,996
Deductions:					
Expenses	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
<u>Balance - End of Year</u>	<u>\$ 60,720</u>	<u>\$ 32,553</u>	<u>\$ 4,966</u>	<u>\$ 3,900</u>	<u>\$ 102,140</u>

The above Restricted Funds are currently maintained in high yield interest bearing accounts. By resolution of the Board of Directors, the first eight percent (8%) simple interest on an annual basis is retained in the fund with the balance of the interest income transferred to the General Fund.

In addition to the above funds, the Endowment Fund has five (5) shares of ODESSA TRADING COMPANY, Class B, Common stock which are not readily marketable.

During the year ended May 31, 1981, the Sanctuaries Fund received a partial distribution from an Estate in the amount of \$17,500. A final distribution from this Estate in the amount of \$32,989 was received in March 1982.

## Christmas Bird Counts

For those in doubt about a Christmas Bird Count, see p. 76 in the May *Gull*.

### OAKLAND

The 1983 Oakland Christmas Bird Count will be held on **Sunday, Dec. 18.**

Last year's participants will receive a letter with information on the 1983 count. If you didn't participate last year, but wish to this year, just call Hillary Hulen at the GGAS office, 843-2222.

Feeder coverage is essential to the success of the Oakland Count. Feeders give many of our national records for high count species. They often attract and keep rarities. If you have a feeder and would like to count birds, please contact Hillary at the office.

Last year's count was a wonderful success. This year you can join the fun and share the satisfaction of participating in the Oakland Christmas Count.

—KURT CAMPBELL, Compiler

### APRES THE OAKLAND BIRD COUNT

This year you won't have to bring anything but yourselves! A catered spread will be available—hearty soup, salad and dessert—at a cost of \$3.50. It will be at the Trinity Methodist Church. Plates, utensils, coffee and tea will be furnished. In next issue of the *Gull* there will be a reservation form. Plan to attend. Yvonne Donner does a good spread. And remember it is on December 18 this year.

—HAZEL HOUSTON

### SAN FRANCISCO—A FIRST!

GGAS plans to initiate a San Francisco Christmas Count this year. We have a circle which fits tightly between the Southern Marin, Oakland and Crystal Springs circles. Pending the approval of the circle by National Audubon, we will conduct the count on **Wednesday, Dec. 21.** The circle include all of the San Francisco Peninsula north of approximately San Bruno Ave. In recognition of the limitations of a weekday count, we hope to involve members working in downtown San Francisco and other such areas to bird small city squares before work or during lunch hours. Of course we will organize teams to cover the coast, bay and parklands within our circle. Hopefully we will have a boat to cover the bay and as always, we will need people to count at feeders. If you wish to participate you must contact the GGAS office (843-2222) or me (546-0074).

—DAN MURPHY

### POINT REYES

It is a little known fact that GGAS co-sponsors the Point Reyes Christmas count with Marin Audubon Society and Point Reyes Bird Observatory. This count will take place on **Saturday, Dec. 17.** If you wish to participate phone Bill Lenarz at 457-1642.

### LOS BANOS AGAIN

The 16th Los Banos Christmas Bird Count will be held on **Tuesday, Dec. 27.** Western Merced County is justly famous for its raptors, its

concentrations of waterfowl and White-faced Ibis. Many unusual species have been found in the count area, including Eastern Phoebe, Ruff, European Wigeon, Barn Swallow and Sage Thrasher, as well as Solitary Vireo, Yellow Warbler and many more. Last year a Cassin's Kingbird, a Long-eared Owl and Mountain Bluebirds were seen and the count's potential for growth is impressive. Seven species have been seen in national high numbers in the past three years.

This count depends heavily on help from outside the Los Banos area and this year especially we are calling for help from everywhere.

The compilation is planned for one of California's finest and most affordable Basque restaurants. Join us for good birding, good eating and an all-round good time.

For details call compiler Kurt Campbell at 707-664-0104 or write him at P.O. Box 1935, Novato, CA 94948. Carpooling arrangements will be made.

## The Grand Prize

"Wings in the Wind" is a signed, limited edition print (750) by noted naturalist, artist, conservationist and author John A. Ruthven. It is destined to become a collectors' print similar to most of his previously issued prints that have sold out.

The publisher, Wildlife International, has generously donated this print (\$200 retail) to our fundraising effort. In addition, this print is also being offered for sale to Audubon members under conditions that benefit GGAS greatly.

If a GGAS member purchases the print (\$200), \$100 will be returned to the GGAS treasury by the publisher. This is an opportunity to purchase a beautiful holiday gift and make a contribution to Audubon. One-half of the purchase price is tax-deductible. For more information contact Hillary in the GGAS office.

## Benefit Drawing

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets (\$1.00 each or 6/\$5.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to help support GGAS and will sell tickets.

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ tickets.

Please send this form plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY

2718 Telegraph Avenue #206, Berkeley, CA 94705

## Wildlife Art Benefit Credits

The following Bay Area businesses have contributed time and materials to this fundraising effort:

Amsterdam Art

Glenn Custom Framing - Kathleen Glenn

Story Framing, Berkeley - James Storey

Round Table Pizza, Richmond

They deserve our support. Also hats off to GGAS board member Diane Roukes for her efforts in getting many of the prints framed.

Special mention is due to Executive Director Hillary Hulen who has singlehandedly gathered an impressively beautiful collection of prizes for this benefit.

## Contest for Culinary Artists

Bake some birding Christmas cookies and bring them to the Dec. 8 GGAS meeting. Three categories of birds are proposed: songbirds; shorebirds, waterfowl or raptors; "rare birds." Prizes are offered for each category. They include copies of *Birds of Northern California*, *Birding at the Bottom of the Bay* and beautiful prints by Robert Campbell of Egrets and Terns.

**Official Rules:** Participants may enter as many cookies as they wish so long as they bring a few extra for snacks at the meeting. Any degree of decoration is allowed so long as the cookie qualifies as an "edible entry."

More information will appear in the December *Gull*, but it is not too early to start designing and planning your cookies now.

## Wild Birdseed Available

The Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum in Walnut Creek is offering wild birdseed packaged to its specifications. Premium grade seed selected for quality and nutrition includes in the blend:

White Proso Millet

Cracked Wheat

Red Proso Millet

Cracked Corn

Sudan Grass Seed

Canary Seed

White Wonder Millet

Rape Seed

German Golden Millet

Buckwheat Seed

Cracked Milo

Thistle Seed

In five-pound packages at \$3 or ten pounds for \$5, the seed is available at the Museum bookstore during open hours (Wednesday to Friday 1 to 5 p.m. and weekends 12-4 p.m.), Larkey Park, 1901 First Ave., Walnut Creek. The telephone is 935-1978. Proceeds from the sale support the Museum and its programs.

## Scholarship: Audubon Camp in the West

Every year GGAS awards a memorial scholarship for a two-week session at Audubon Camp in the West. Situated in the Wind River Mountains near Dubois, Wyoming, it offers environmental field studies for adults. The curriculum includes both hands-on experience and field trips amidst a spectacular natural setting. Participants gain knowledge and understanding that can be shared and used when working on local conservation issues in their home communities.

It is time to submit applications for the session in the summer of 1984. Anyone 18 years of age or older may apply. For an application form or more information phone the GGAS office — 843-2222.

A brochure describing National Audubon's Camps, Workshops and Field Seminars is available from Audubon Camps, 4150 Darley, Suite 5, Boulder, CO 80303. Phone 303-499-5409.

This scholarship is in honor of Marjorie Milner Atkinson, long-time GGAS member, who left a bequest for this purpose.

## PRBO Class Offering

*Thanksgiving Birds*, taught by Ron LeValley, scheduled for November 25-27, will look for the northern birds which "invade" northeast California in the winter. Expected are Whistling Swans, Bald and Golden Eagles, Northern Shrikes, Long-eared and Short-eared Owls, Tree Sparrows, Bohemian Waxwings and longspurs. The circular route goes from Redding east to Honey Lake, north toward the Warner Mountains, then northeast to the Oregon border. The \$170 fee includes motel lodging three nights and all lunches. For information phone PRBO at 415-868-1221.

## Updating Robbins

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Spear, Hermosa Beach, have page by page updated *Birds of North America* by Robbins et al. (Golden Press, New York, N.Y., 1966) to conform to the Checklist of North American Birds of AOU soon to be published. A copy will be mailed for \$1 (three or more 90¢ each). Some people seem to treasure the older edition and/or to value the notes they have accumulated in its margins. You may send your order to the Spears at 218 The Strand, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254. The list was prepared for publication in their chapter newsletter but proved to be prohibitively long.

## The Back Yard Birder

Recently I noticed an unexpected peril to bird life. An enormous spider web, one-and-one-half feet across, created by an Orb-Weaving Spider, hung right next to my hummingbird feeder. While I admired its beauty, I felt it could pose a danger, so I knocked it down. It was back the next morning. After several days, however, the spider gave up and built on the other side of the house. Fortunately, no bird had become entangled in the huge, sticky web, but I understand it has happened.

Secondly, because I live in a hot area I try to provide plenty of water for birds. Aside from two bird baths we have a shallow pond. Sadly, a baby quail became a drowning victim so I had to empty the pond until the babies learn to watch their steps.

In reality, most of the loss of birdlife can be attributed to man-related hazards. There are obvious dangers such as plate glass windows, cars, trucks and airplanes. Structures such as skyscrapers and TV towers claim the lives of nocturnal migrants, especially on foggy nights. Hawks, eagles and other large birds are often killed by flying into or being electrocuted by high-tension power lines.

Animals which have followed the spread of Western civilization (dogs, cats, rats, pigs, goats, etc.) have been a threat to wildlife from time to time. Especially devastating was the arrival of these animals on islands where no predators previously existed. Over centuries some bird species lost the ability to fly and were virtually helpless. Burrowing and ground-nesting species are sitting ducks in these situations. Even our songbirds find neighborhoods with many dogs and cats treacherous breeding areas.

Probably the most insidious killer is the use of pesticides and other chemicals to control insect pests. Not only are "good" bugs killed along with the "bad" ones, chemicals enter the soil and water and hence are ingested and affect the entire food chain. DDT is the most widely-known pesticide and while its use is restricted in North America, chemical companies are not above selling to Third World countries, affecting our migrant birds. Hopes remain that we can educate other countries.

Among the most serious threats to wildlife is the destruction of habitat. This includes forest removal for lumber, destruction of prairies for agriculture, the drainage of wetlands for highway and home construction, as well as clearing second-growth woodland for home sites. Some species have very restricted habitat needs and preferences: prairie chickens need short-grass prairies, Red-cockaded Woodpeckers need diseased pine trees, Seaside Sparrows need salt marshes. The decline of Whooping Cranes, Everglade Kites and Bachman's Warblers and the probable extinction of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker and Dusky Seaside Sparrow

can be attributed to habitat destruction. Once again our migratory birds are facing problems as the rain forests of South and Central America gradually disappear.

Other than the man-made causes listed above, many other potentials for danger exist; acid rain and the disposal of chemical and nuclear wastes are sure to have an effect on wildlife.

Traditionally, coal miners took a caged canary down the mine shaft with them. When the canary fell off its perch, the victim of lethal fumes, it was time for the miners to get out. As stated by Christopher Leahy in *The Birdwatchers Companion*, "If we wake up one morning to find birds falling off their perches, it will be too late to correct earlier miscalculations. And, of course, there is nowhere else to go."

—MEG PAULETICH

## Guide to Santa Clara County Birding

*Birding at the Bottom of the Bay*, edited by Betty Wyatt and Audrey Stoye; Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, 2253 Park Blvd., Palo Alto, CA 94306. \$5.95 (\$7.50 postpaid).

*Birding at the Bottom of the Bay* is the latest in a growing number of site guides to states, regions and counties around the country. This little volume introduces us to 38 Santa Clara County localities, many of which are somewhat unfamiliar even to active birders. It also includes suggestions for birding in nearby counties, a regional map and several site maps, a specialty bird list and a county checklist.

The real value of this guide is in its description of many unfamiliar birding sites. The written directions appear to be consistently good. However, the book is plagued with inconsistencies and insufficient articles. Several sites are described with target species, historic and ecological background and maps. Others provide little more than directions and certainly nothing to motivate birders to visit them. The area map is frustrating in that it maps only numbered highways, but provides no place names for points of reference. The site maps, when present, vary in quality much as the articles do. The specialty birds include mention of California Quail, Anna's Hummingbird and Steller's Jay, yet omit all shorebirds, relegate Blue-winged Teal to an also-mentioned species under Cinnamon Teal and fail to mention where vagrant land, shore and water birds have appeared in the past. The use of bar graphs and habitat codes in the checklist would be of considerable help to visiting and new birders.

Even with its limitations, this volume should be added to every Bay Area birder's library. The editors, contributors and the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society are to be complimented for undertaking this very difficult task. This reviewer hopes that future editions of this book

will focus on providing consistent site guides, reinforced with maps and complemented with even more illustrations. But don't wait for a next edition, buy your guide to birding in Santa Clara County and discover "the bottom of the bay."

—DAN MURPHY

## The Robert van den Bosch Lecture—1983

In order to mark his distinguished career and to rekindle interest in the important environmental concerns he so candidly presented to the lay person and the scientist alike, the Robert van den Bosch Committee has initiated a series of lectures to be given by outstanding environmental leaders. The first in this series of lectures will take place on **Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m.** in Wheeler Auditorium on the UC-Berkeley campus. Professor Paul Ehrlich of Stanford University, whose broad background on major environmental issues is well known and who wrote the preface to Van's book, *The Pesticide Conspiracy*, will present the first lecture: "Environmental Issues for the 1984 Elections."

## Cornell Ornithology Lab Director Talks

Dr. Charles Walcot will speak on his work on bird navigation in San Francisco on Thursday, Nov. 10, at the Marines' Memorial Theatre. He is director of the Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology at Sapsucker Woods, Ithaca, New York. He will be speaking at a gathering of Cornell alumni to which local bird club members are invited. There is a reception from 6 to 7:30 p.m., and the meeting will last until 9. The cost is \$7 and reservations may be made by phoning Tracy Sartin at 548-8372.

## Cranes of the World

Dr. George Archibald, director and founder of the International Crane Foundation, will speak on *Cranes of the World* **November 11, 7:30 p.m.** at the California Academy of Sciences in the Morrison Auditorium. There is no admission charge.

Renowned as the world statesman of crane conservation, Archibald's dedication to his task has enabled him to accomplish what few politicians have been able to do: he has convinced the governments of nations hostile to each other (USSR, North and South Korea, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and combinations of all these) to suspend their differences in joint efforts to save the cranes of Asia.

Dr. Archibald has recently returned from field work in Mongolia. He will include his most recent findings in his presentation on Asia's cranes and their fight for survival.

## After Nuclear War...

The latest scientific findings on the probable global consequences of a nuclear war will be reviewed at a conference October 31 and November 1 in Washington, D.C. National Audubon is among the sponsors.

Donald Kennedy, president of Stanford University, will give the keynote address. Carl Sagan, professor of astronomy and space sciences at Cornell University, will speak on atmospheric and climatic changes to be expected from a nuclear war, and Paul Ehrlich, professor of population studies at Stanford, will talk about biological consequences. Panels of scientist will discuss specific possibilities and there will be question-and-answer periods.

The regular registration fee is \$140, but for members of sponsoring organizations (including Audubon) the price is \$95. The event will take place at the Sheraton Washington and reservations there can be made through the conference staff. To register call 202-638-6511 or write: The World After Nuclear War, 1735 New York Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.

## Thanks

To Dianne Sierra for a note putting us straight on the use of *sierra*, a matter in which she has some personal stake. To Polly Pitkin Ryan who claims to have eaten crow and to know how to cook it. She suggests that this feast may account for the fact that *she* is quick, intelligent, funny and capricious, as primitive hunters believed that they acquired the qualities of an animal of whose flesh they fed. (See June 1983 *Gull* p. 95.)

## Richardson Bay Audubon Center Sale

From Nov. 2 through Dec. 22 the Audubon Center Store will be having its third annual holiday sale. Many books and gift items will be specially priced for holiday shopping.

*Audubon Encyclopedia of Animal Life*

Reg. \$45 Sale \$29.95

All Audubon Field Guides

Reg. \$12.50 Sale \$6.95

Bushnell Spacemaster Telescope  
with 20x eyepiece

List \$305 Our Price \$199

The Center also carries a full line of Bushnell, Bausch & Lomb and Leitz binoculars, all discounted 30%. It also has a good supply of the new edition of Robbins' *Birds of North America* and the 1984 Audubon calendar.

## Cooper Ornithological Society

On Monday, November 7, Michael Morrison of the Department of Forestry and Resource Management, UC Berkeley, will present a talk to the Northern California chapter of the Cooper Ornithological Society entitled "Hybridization between Townsend's and Hermit Warblers."

His presentation promises to be of interest to amateur and professional birders. The meeting will take place in Room 2503, Life Sciences Building, UC Berkeley at 8 p.m., preceded by a business meeting at 7:45 p.m. Every one interested in birds is welcome and encouraged to attend.

## Emerson A. Stoner, 1892-1983

We are indebted to L. Richard Mewaldt, Emeritus Professor of Zoology, San Jose State University, for notice of the death of Emerson A. Stoner of Benicia in his ninetieth year. Mr. Stoner, a lifelong birder, was a contributor to *The Condor*, *The Oologist*, *The Auk*, *American Birds*, *Le Gerfaut* (Belgian) and to *The Gull*, which printed 56 of his articles.

A self-taught natural scientist, he was, in 1921, one of the early bird-banding cooperators of the U.S. Biological Survey. He was a charter member and president of the Western Bird Banding Association from 1953-57, treasurer of PRBO for eight years, a member of the Cooper Ornithological Society from 1918 and the American Ornithologists' Union from 1922. His library and parts of his collection were donated to local schools, PRBO and to the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology in Los Angeles.

## No Sarcastic Intent

Writing in *Sports Illustrated*, Bil Gilbert concluded a thoughtful, well-researched, two-part series on the Watt administration with these words: "I have been following environmental affairs for 35 years and am of the opinion that during that period the three people who have had the greatest impact on how we think about and behave toward nature are Aldo Leopold, the naturalist-author who after his death became the spiritual father of the environmentalist movement; Rachel Carson, the author of *Silent Spring*; and James Watt. The last name is listed with absolutely no ironic or sarcastic intent."

And that should take care of that subject.

## From The Ranch

The century-old farmhouse at Canyon Ranch sits upon a Miwok village. Accordingly it was felt suitable to establish an Indian exhibit nearby and one has been placed in Wattis Display Hall.

It is currently being re-established under the direction of Nadine Hastings from the Ranch Associates; Frank Norick of the Lowie Museum, UC-Berkeley, is helping. The Lowie Museum will loan the Ranch a number of baskets such as were used for acorn gathering and for seed gathering, as well as gaming trays. These artifacts will come from the Sierra Miwok and coastal Pomo peoples as artifacts of the coastal Miwok are very rare. Period photographs, enlarged, will show natives making acorn mush, baskets, shell money and tule boats on Bolinas Lagoon.

At Cypress Grove only the remains of shell mounds destroyed by the 1870 railroad work are to be seen. Occasional Indian artifacts are unearthed in the garden.

At Bouverie Audubon Preserve in Sonoma County many of the ranch buildings are of old stone or have been reconstructed during the last 50 years. A current exhibit of old Sonoma stone work is on view at Vasquez House, headquarters of the Sonoma League for Historic Preservation. Included in the exhibit are the great stone bell tower, various garden and road posts and arches and cobblestone paving at our preserve.

—CLIFFORD CONLY, JR.

## GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

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#### In Memory of

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The Society welcomes gifts in general or gifts in honor or in memory of relatives and friends. Such gifts will be used as specified by the donor or, if unspecified, at the discretion of the GGAS Board of Directors. This includes their use for general GGAS activities or for special programs of the Society including Audubon Canyon Ranch of which GGAS is a sponsor. Please send your gift in the form of a check made out to the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. to Minnie Groshong, Corresponding Secretary, Golden Gate Audubon Society, 2718 Telegraph Ave., #206, Berkeley, CA 94705-1179. All gifts are tax deductible. The Society is also appreciative of any bequests. Such bequests should specify as recipient the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. All gifts, donations and bequests will be acknowledged in *The Gull* as well as personally on behalf of the Society by the Corresponding Secretary.



Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.  
Office: 843-2222  
2718 Telegraph Avenue, #206  
Berkeley, California 94705

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November 1983

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### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RARE BIRD ALERT (recorded) 843-2211

Mail for all individuals listed above should be sent to the GGAS office.

Send address changes to office promptly; Post Office does not forward *THE GULL*. Monthly meetings: second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint membership — local and national \$25 per year (individual); \$32 (family); includes *AUDUBON* Magazine and *THE GULL*; to join, make checks payable to National Audubon Society and send to GGAS office to avoid delay in receiving *THE GULL*. Membership renewals should be sent directly to the National Audubon office. Subscriptions to *THE GULL* separately \$8. per year; single issues \$1. High school and college student membership \$15 per year. Senior citizen individual \$17, senior citizen family \$19. Associate Membership in Golden Gate Audubon Society, \$10 per year.

The Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. was established January 25, 1917, and became a chapter of National Audubon in 1948.

***The Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month.**